

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/992,264

Examiner

Thomas A. Dixon

Applicant(s)

LABBE ET AL.

Art Unit

3628

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 7/24/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,10,13-18 and 27-31.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

## Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Information Disclosure Statement***

1. The amendment submitted on 24 July 2006 has been considered by the examiner.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. Claims 1, 2, 10, 13, 14, 27 are allowed.
3. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

As per Claim 1.

Okuda et al (4,708,461), Kawamura et al (5,587,799), Matsumoto et al (5,754,744), Brown et al (2005/0075214), Adachi (2001/0015817) and Login et al (5,799,281) in view of Courter et al alone or in combination do not disclose or fairly teach:

- a. a machine timeslot reservation subsystem including storage means for storing time slot reservation information, a calendar, and time clock information, time slot status information, intended user Id code information and machine control information for a user operated group machine (UOGM);
- d. means for operating said UOGM to run said received order quantity when said current clock time shows no reserved time slots for said UOGM;
- e. user ID verification means for receiving and processing an actual user ID code against said intended user ID code, when said clock time corresponds to a reserved time slot;
- f. programmed means for enabling operation of said UOGM to run said received order quantity when said actual user ID code matches said intended user ID code.

As per Claim 2.

Okuda et al (4,708,461), Kawamura et al (5,587,799), Matsumoto et al (5,754,744), Brown et al (2005/0075214), Adachi (2001/0015817) and Login et al (5,799,281) in view of Courter et al alone or in combination do not disclose or fairly teach:

displaying selectable date and time calendar information on the screen comprises displaying only current and future date and time calendar information for a user operated group machine.

As per Claim 10.

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Okuda et al (4,708,461), Kawamura et al (5,587,799), Matsumoto et al (5,754,744), Brown et al (2005/0075214), Adachi (2001/0015817) and Login et al (5,799,281) in view of Courter et al alone or in combination do not disclose or fairly teach:

displaying interactive selectable time slot symbols includes displaying time slot symbols that open for receiving TSR information only when a time lot corresponding to a time slot division for such symbol is an open time slot for a user operated group machine.

As per Claim 13.

Okuda et al (4,708,461), Kawamura et al (5,587,799), Matsumoto et al (5,754,744), Brown et al (2005/0075214), Adachi (2001/0015817) and Login et al (5,799,281) in view of Courter et al alone or in combination do not disclose or fairly teach:

displaying and retaining a record of past, present and future time slot reservations for each user operated group machine.

As per Claim 14.

Okuda et al (4,708,461), Kawamura et al (5,587,799), Matsumoto et al (5,754,744), Brown et al (2005/0075214), Adachi (2001/0015817) and Login et al (5,799,281) in view of Courter et al alone or in combination do not disclose or fairly teach:

As per Claim 27.

Okuda et al (4,708,461), Kawamura et al (5,587,799), Matsumoto et al (5,754,744), Brown et al (2005/0075214), Adachi (2001/0015817) and Login et al (5,799,281) in view of Courter et al alone or in combination do not disclose or fairly teach:

an alerting means communicating with said controller assembly for alerting an intended user of a reserved time slot;

the alerting means for the user operated group machine comprises a light tower including a pole and a light source having an on state and an off state.

The claims that depend from the above allowed claims are allowed for the same reasons.

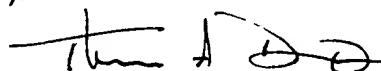
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

**Conclusion**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas A. Dixon whose telephone number is (571) 272-6803. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 6:30 - 4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Hayes can be reached on (571) 272-6708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Thomas A. Dixon  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3639

October 06